

NATIONAL THREAT LANDSCAPE STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

This assessment is intended to provide situational awareness of threats with potential national-level implications related to public order, public safety and the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. The information in this assessment is based on reporting from RCMP Divisions, law enforcement partners, searches conducted against RCMP holdings, and open source resources (current as of 21 December, 2021). The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threats and will provide updates on a periodic or as required basis.

KEY POINTS

- Although the momentum of responses to the call out for Wet'suwet'en solidarity actions has slowed, planned and impromptu solidarity actions in the form of public order events and disruptions to critical infrastructure are likely to continue into 2022.
- The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates, vaccine certificates, and vaccination of younger populations continues to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence. Protests outside children's vaccine clinics and the homes of public officials marks an escalation in the movement.

THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY

COASTAL GASLINK PIPELINE (CGL) OPPOSITION – MORICE RIVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Potential for continued criminality and solidarity actions which could impact public or officer safety.

On December 19, 2021, information was posted on social media indicating that the Gidimt'en Clan has evicted CGL from the drill site and reoccupied Coyote Camp.¹ An E Division media release advised that "protesters allegedly threatened Coastal GasLink security officials, damaged trucks and fired flares and bear bangers at security officials".² These recent actions by the protesters could result in a breach of the injunction and necessitate future arrests.

Solidarity actions in support of Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs who opposed the CGL pipeline have occurred in the past. In February of 2020, for example, significant blockades of rail lines occurred throughout Canada. More recently, in November of 2021, the RCMP's removal of a group of protesters illegally blocking a CGL workers' camp³ inspired solidarity actions across the country. On November 29, 2021, two individuals were arrested after blocking the Morice Forest Service Road.^{4 5} Social media posts related to the blockade suggest a fire was set on the road and CGL work was stopped.⁶

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Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada

Multiple solidarity actions have occurred throughout this reporting period, which include:

- On November 27, 2021, a protest, which included a march, took place in Montreal outside of the Quebec RCMP headquarters, resulting in four arrests. Police of jurisdiction eventually declared the event illegal.^{7a}
- On December 1, 2021, a solidarity event in Vancouver, BC - which included protesters occupying a Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) location - resulted in three arrests.⁸
- On December 3, 2021, a protest occurred outside the RCMP detachment in Powell River, BC.⁹
- On December 4, 2021, anarchist blogs reported that approximately 60 people blocked the CN Rail main line in Saint-Lambert, QC.¹⁰
- On December 11, 2021, a protest occurred in Toronto, ON where participants marched and demonstrated in front of several financial institutions.¹¹
- On December 19, 2021, two protests in Toronto, ON blocked traffic lanes, resulting in delays.¹²

An “International Week of Action” was announced for the week of December 20, 2021,¹³ and discussions indicate that the RBC is the key target of grievances. Other financial institutions, such as TD Canada Trust, ScotiaBank, CIBC and AIMCo, are also listed as complicit institutions in similar grievances.¹⁴ Banks and investors are the focus of opposition groups, based on the perception that these corporations are funding climate destruction and Indigenous rights violations. This “Week of Action” has been promoted on anarchist blogs which, in the past, have also reported on and promoted illegal tactics, such as blockades and burning objects to obstruct roads and railways. Currently, actions in the form of protests have been planned to take place outside RBC locations across the country.

The following open source photos show recent acts of graffiti in Vancouver and Toronto related to CGL opposition:



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^a According to news reports, three arrests were made for obstructing police work and one was made for assault on an officer and obstructing police work. <https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/protesters-march-to-back-wetsuweten-in-opposition-to-b-c-pipeline>

Additionally, on December 18, 2021, a Canadian anarchist blog posted a document listing a number of roads that are identified as the worst bottlenecks for traffic flow in Canada, vulnerable infrastructure sectors in each province, and general information about transportation infrastructure in Canada.¹⁸ The document discusses critical infrastructure and how industries could be impacted by disruptions to these systems. (See APPENDIX A for full document.) The blog post linked to information about the December 20 “Week of Action”.

The overall sentiment towards police, specifically the RCMP, within online advertisements for public order events remains negative.

The IMCIT assesses that, while the momentum of protests across Canada has currently slowed, these events continue to occur sporadically, in addition to virtual networking events that have included rhetoric related to decentralized direct action across the country.¹⁹ Individuals with shared grievances across Canada have the ability to mobilize quickly in response to calls for solidarity actions, which may occur with little warning. Calls for action and potential disruptions to critical infrastructure are expected to continue in response to RCMP enforcement at Coyote Camp against the CGL protestors.

CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES - NATIONAL MOBILIZATION

Potential for criminality and potential for Canada-wide actions.

Discussions and actions by environmental groups continue to overlap with narratives related to Wet’suwet’en solidarity and perceived inaction by the federal government to combat climate change.

Recent news reports indicated that the Vancouver Police Department spent over \$3 million on resources for protests during 2021. These reports specifically noted that climate protests require significant police resources, given that the events often generate disruptions to traffic and major infrastructure.²⁰ The IMCIT assesses that environmental groups within Canada regularly use tactics that involve civil disobedience and note that specific groups, such as Extinction Rebellion, have promoted the use of such tactics. These groups are aware of the impact that civil disobedience can have on police resources and believe that it forces decision makers to take notice.

The IMCIT assesses that public order events related to climate issues are expected to continue sporadically or in conjunction with protests opposing pipelines.

OLD-GROWTH LOGGING - SOUTHWEST VANCOUVER ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA (BC)

Potential for continued criminality, solidarity actions and counter-protests which could impact public or officer safety.

The temporary injunction that prohibits the obstruction, impediment, or interference with logging remains in place.²¹ On November 29, 2021, officers carrying out a routine safety patrol were assaulted.²² On November 30, 2021, when officers returned to the site to arrest the individuals from the previous day, they were assaulted by two other individuals who were subsequently arrested.²³ According to the latest media update from E Division, police are still searching for the individuals involved with the November 29 assault.

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A total of 1188 individuals have been arrested at the protest site since May 2021.²⁴ A news report released on December 20, 2021 indicated that the RCMP's enforcement of the injunction has cost over \$6 million dollars.²⁵ Environmental groups assess that the money has been wasted and used to target, harass, and assault Indigenous land defenders.²⁶

Social media activity continues to encourage individuals to gather in protest at Fairy Creek, and narratives claiming RCMP misconduct at the site persist. Environmental groups in BC appear to be planning for future actions to block the Trans-Canada Highway at multiple locations numerous times per week. These actions are intended to bring attention to the issue of old-growth logging.²⁷ There is no information available at this time regarding the timing of these actions. Thus far, open source information indicates that only virtual meetings have taken place.

On December 9, 2021, a pro-logging rally in Port Alberni took place where protesters used logging trucks to temporarily block the road outside Legislative Assembly Member Josie OSBORNE's office.²⁸ The protest was in response to the BC government's plan for old-growth logging deferrals, which has generated discussion among the logging industry amid concerns over potential job loss.

The IMCIT assesses that protesters plan to remain in the area and that any law enforcement arrests will be perceived negatively and could spark sporadic solidarity actions across the country.

FISHERIES DISPUTE - ST. MARYS BAY, NOVA SCOTIA (NS)

Potential for unauthorized fishing and increased tensions between non-Indigenous and Indigenous fishers which could impact public or officer safety.

In September of 2020, the Sipekne'katik First Nation community fishers launched a self-regulated lobster fishery that produced opposition from non-Indigenous commercial fishers, resulting in violence, property damage, and arson.²⁹ In July of 2021, the Sipekne'katik launched a food, social, and ceremonial (FSC) fishery outside of the commercial season regulated by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO).³⁰ Since August of 2021, the Sipekne'katik have transitioned to operating a self-regulated treaty lobster fishery in St. Marys Bay that harvests at various times of the year.³¹ This treaty fishery operates according to Band rules, but without regulation from DFO or commercial restrictions.

Notable points throughout this reporting period include the following:

- The dumping day of December 1, 2021, which launches the commercial lobster fishing season, occurred without incident in Lobster Fishing Areas in Southwest Nova Scotia.³²
- s.37 [REDACTED] which seeks a court order to stop DFO from taking enforcement action against Indigenous fishers.³⁴
- s.37 [REDACTED]

Currently, there is no information to suggest public order events will occur in Nova Scotia as they have in the past,³⁶ or that there could be a spill-over into other parts of the country. The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on the situation.

ANTI-PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

Potential for public health restriction violations. Potential for protests that could impact public or officer safety.

The IMCIT assesses that opposition to vaccine mandates, vaccine certificates, and vaccination of younger populations continue to grow in intensity and could become a potential flash point for acts of violence. The disruption of multiple children's vaccine clinics, as well as an uptick in protests outside the homes of public officials, marks another escalation within this movement.

Three emerging trends have been observed during this reporting period: 1) protests targeting public officials and health officers; 2) incidents at children's vaccination clinics; and 3) an increase in misinformation about adverse vaccine reactions and the consequences of being unvaccinated.

Protests Targeting Public Officials and Health Officers

Opposition to COVID public health rules have included narratives that public health officials are engaged in crimes against humanity, with advocacy for the punishment of public officials in "Nuremberg Trials 2.0" to rectify these perceived injustices.

Additionally, there has been an increase in the number of individuals calling for protests to take place outside the private residences of public officials and health officers. Open source information indicates that protesters feel their lives have been disrupted by various COVID-19 public health regulations and therefore want to disrupt the lives of the decision makers they perceive are responsible.

The following related incidents have recently occurred:

- On December 7, 2021, protesters gathered outside the home of the Chatham-Kent, ON Medical Officer of Health.³⁷
- On December 9, 2021, protesters associated with the Canada Unity Convoy^b protested outside of the Prime Minister's Official Residence in Ottawa, ON.³⁸
- On December 11, 2021, protesters gathered outside the home of the Prince Edward Island Chief Health Officer.³⁹

^b The Canada Unity is a loosely organized group that self-describes as representing and defending Canada's lawful freedom of personal choices and typically attracts individuals within the anti-public health order movement. Protests involving the group have been relatively peaceful in nature. Between Dec 5-10 2021, however, protesters associated with the group were observed disrupting businesses by defying public health measures and obstructing exits outside of CBC and CTV buildings in Ottawa, ON. The group is very informal, so individuals may associate themselves with events planned by the group, but may not be in direct contact with the group leader and therefore may be unpredictable.

- On December 13 and 15, 2021, protesters gathered outside the home of Christine ELLIOTT (Deputy Premier of Ontario, Minister of Health, and Member of Provincial Parliament/MPP for Newmarket-Aurora).^{40 41}
- During the week of December 13, 2021, protesters gathered outside the home of a doctor in Calgary, AB who has been vocal in support of public health measures during the pandemic.⁴²
- On December 19 and 20, 2021⁴³, protesters gathered outside Premier of Ontario Doug FORD's home. A news report from December 20, 2021 indicates that the Premier and his family have not been able to access their home for the past few days due to the protesters' presence.⁴⁴
- On December 21, 2021, protesters gathered outside the home of the Niagara, ON Medical Officer of Health.⁴⁵
- Information from J Division advises that a protest has been planned for December 23, 2021 outside of New Brunswick Premier Blaine HIGGS' residence.⁴⁶
- Open source information on s.37 indicates that a protest has been planned for December 23, 2021 outside of Dr. TAM's residence (the federal Chief Public Health Officer) in Ottawa, ON.⁴⁷

In addition to the public order events noted above, some online discussions have suggested protesting outside the homes of school board employees,⁴⁸ although the IMCIT has not observed any incidents where this has occurred at the time of this writing.

Protests at Vaccine Clinics

Protests have also been held outside of vaccine clinics specifically involved in the vaccination of children.

- On November 28, 2021, news reports and social media posts indicated that protesters in North Bay, ON yelled adverse comments at parents and children at a vaccine clinic.^{49 50}
- On December 1, 2021, one individual was detained and charged with failing to leave a premises during a protest outside a vaccine clinic in Whitby, ON.⁵¹ Video of the protest on social media shows protesters yelling various anti-vaccine comments, some of which appear to be directed at children.⁵²
- On December 3, 2021, news reports indicated that protests occurred outside children's vaccine clinics in the Niagara Region, ON.⁵³ According to the reports, the local MPP had received calls from parents concerned about the anti-vaccine rhetoric used by protesters to intimidate their children.⁵⁴

- On December 6, 2021, police were called during a protest outside a children's vaccine clinic in Prince George, BC.⁵⁵ Media reporting advised that protesters were following people from the clinic to their vehicles while shouting anti-vaccine rhetoric.⁵⁶
- On December 12, 2021, a protest was held outside the Scotiabank Arena during the "Toronto Kids Vaccine Day", a one-day mass vaccination event. The protest was widely advertised within anti-public health order networks beforehand, and Toronto Police issued a statement advising that attempts to interfere or obstruct families in attendance would not be tolerated.⁵⁷

Increase in Misinformation

Misinformation has increased about adverse reactions to the vaccines, specifically for children, as well as the alleged consequences for individuals who remain unvaccinated.

- On December 3, 2021, a document suggesting unvaccinated people in Ontario would be apprehended circulated in anti-vaccine networks prior to officials advising that the document was fake.⁵⁸
- On December 5, 2021, a popular anti-vaccine social media group based in Calgary, AB posted that they had received multiple reports from nurses at the Alberta Children's Hospital (AHS), secretly warning parents not to give their children the vaccine due to an influx of adverse reactions that AHS was attempting to cover up.⁵⁹
- On December 6, 2021, Ottawa Public Health tweeted, "We are aware of misinformation being shared that a child in Ottawa died after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. We have reviewed our records of adverse events following immunizations (AEFI) and connected with partners at @CHEO & the coroners to confirm this information is false".⁶⁰

Several other notable incidents, topics, or upcoming events have been driving related discussions during this reporting period:

- On December 4, 2021, a prominent anti-public health order influencer was one of three people arrested during an anti-mask event promoted as "the old normal traditional holiday shopping" at the West Edmonton Mall.⁶¹ The arrests were for breaching an injunction banning them from the West Edmonton Mall, in addition to outstanding warrants for the prominent influencer.⁶²
- On December 9, 2021, a protest outside the BC Legislature included hanged effigies of Premier John HORGAN, Health Minister Adrian DIX, and Public Safety Minister Mike FARNWORTH.⁶³
- News of New Brunswick grocery stores potentially requesting proof of vaccination when physical distancing inside a store is not possible has fueled existing narratives of segregation between the vaccinated and unvaccinated populations within Canada. The Government of New Brunswick has since removed the option for grocery stores to request proof of vaccination,⁶⁴ although narratives continue to circulate online that the government is trying to starve the unvaccinated.

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- Flyers currently circulating on social media indicate that protests may occur on January 8, 2022 outside media outlets in multiple Canadian cities. The purpose of these protests will be to focus on the protestors' claim that the "media is the virus".⁶⁵
- A sixth "World Wide Demonstration for Freedom" is being advertised for January 22, 2022 and is circulating in Canadian social media networks. The most recent "World Wide Demonstration", which took place in several Canadian cities, did not receive widespread media attention and no major incidents were reported.

Rising COVID-19 case counts in several Canadian provinces have resulted in the reinstatement of some restrictions in advance of the holiday season. The IMCIT assesses that anti-public health order narratives and protests will persist as the pandemic continues to impact daily life.

THREATS TO THE COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT

Potential for criminality or threats to public order or officer safety.

The IMCIT has not identified any confirmed or coordinated threats targeting the vaccine rollout or the vaccine supply chain during this reporting period. Although healthcare workers and parents have expressed frustration over protests occurring at clinics offering pediatric vaccines, there are no known incidents significantly affecting the vaccine rollout arising from these protests during this reporting period.

Followers of a self-proclaimed "Head of State and Commander in Chief of Canada", inspired by QAnon ideologies, continue to send "Notices of Liability" and "Cease and Desist" letters containing anti-vaccine rhetoric to businesses, healthcare settings and schools. A man in Laval, QC was arrested after making veiled threats to target his daughter's school that was offering to vaccinate children. The threats were made in a s.37 [REDACTED] group geared towards followers who volunteer to be "duck hunters" on behalf of this prominent QAnon influencer,⁶⁶ which appears to be coded language for those willing to use force to oppose vaccines.

While fraudulent vaccine certification⁶⁷ and vaccine booking⁶⁸ schemes are likely to persist, they are unlikely to affect the rollout of the legitimate vaccine supply.

The IMCIT continues to maintain visibility on emerging threat issues and will provide updates as required.

Issued by: Ideologically Motivated Criminal Intelligence Team (IMCIT)

Approved by: Director, Directorate of Strategic Intelligence, Federal Policing National Intelligence

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/wetsuwetenstrong/posts/989391572006629>

² <https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2130&languageId=1&contentId=72644>

³ <https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2087&languageId=1&contentId=72197>

⁴ <https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2021/11/30/resistance-activities-continue-on-northwest-bc-pipeline-construction-site-police-make-2-more-arrests.html>

- ⁵ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/two-more-arrests-at-new-wet-suwet-en-blockade-near-coastal-gaslink-pipeline-in-northern-b-c-1.6267219>
- ⁶ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CW3pgoTv03T/>
- ⁷ <https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/protesters-march-to-back-wetsuweten-in-opposition-to-b-c-pipeline>
- ⁸ Personal Info. [REDACTED]
- ⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/events/4793883483967675/>
- ¹⁰ <https://mtlcounterinfo.org/report-back-from-a-rail-blockade-in-saint-lambert/>
- ¹¹ <https://nowtoronto.com/news/in-photos-coastal-gaslink-off-wetsuweten-territory-march>
- ¹² <https://www.cp24.com/news/protests-in-support-of-wet-suwet-en-land-defenders-stop-traffic-in-toronto-1.5713754>
- ¹³ <https://twitter.com/Gidimten/status/1469463829440438278>
- ¹⁴ https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q7GBPhpkCBn5f4_XoxUpDHNnkZsqXsg01eaaM-KLMU/edit
- ¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10158066434677027&set=pcb.10158066434837027>
- ¹⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10158066434642027&set=pcb.10158066434837027>
- ¹⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/RisingTideToronto/photos/pcb.4532549893519588/4532549020186342>
- ¹⁸ <https://mtlcounterinfo.org/shutdowncanada-flyer-for-demonstrations/>
- ¹⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/events/1980231702155280/>
- ²⁰ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vpd-budget-increase-climate-protests-1.6275630>
- ²¹ <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/court-reserves-injunction-decision-in-fairy-creek-old-growth-logging-protests-1.5669739>
- ²² <https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2130&languageId=1&contentId=72354>
- ²³ Ibid.
- ²⁴ <https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2130&languageId=1&contentId=72397>
- ²⁵ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8464303/rcmp-enforcement-cost-fairy-creek-injunction/>
- ²⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/FairyCreekBlockade/posts/437830031372092>
- ²⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/events/1044123366147810>
- ²⁸ <https://www.albernavilleynews.com/news/loggers-block-highway-4-in-front-of-mlas-office-to-protest-govt-deferral-on-old-growth-logging/>
- ²⁹ <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/lobster-catch-destroyed-vehicle-burned-as-tension-rises-over-indigenous-fishery-in-n-s-1.5144540>
- ³⁰ <https://www.halifaxexaminer.ca/featured/its-been-a-year-since-violence-erupted-on-the-south-shore-but-the-cases-of-dozens-of-people-facing-charges-are-in-limbo-and-the-status-of-the-moderate-livelihood-fishery-remains-unresolved/>
- ³¹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/nova-scotia-first-nation-treaty-fishery-monday-1.6140089>
- ³² <https://globalnews.ca/news/8417012/nova-scotia-dumping-day-2021/>
- ³³ s.37 [REDACTED]
- ³⁴ <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/cape-breton-first-nation-asking-for-court-order-stopping-lobster-seizures-by-feds-1.5423414>
- ³⁵ s.37 [REDACTED]
- ³⁶ <https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/nova-scotia-lobster-fishermen-protest-out-of-control-first-nations-fishery-1.5106027>
- ³⁷ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/chatham-kent-medical-officer-protests-1.6279510>
- ³⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CanadaUnity/posts/996406437884275/>
- ³⁹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-protesters-cpho-home-1.6282708>
- ⁴⁰ <https://www.instagram.com/p/CXcd9HLhTPe/>
- ⁴¹ <https://twitter.com/CarymaRules/status/1471243786449784840>
- ⁴² <https://www.facebook.com/CalgaryFreedomCentral/videos/506799987124717/>
- ⁴³ <https://twitter.com/kokopuff16/status/1472684556717330437>

⁴⁴ <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/ontario-premier-doug-ford-can-t-get-into-his-home-due-to-anti-vaxx-protesters-outside-spokesperson-1.5714974>

⁴⁵ <https://www.thoroldtoday.ca/local-news/anti-vaccine-protesters-target-dr-mustafa-hirjis-home-with-megaphones-and-strobe-lights-4890407>

⁴⁶ Email received on 2021-12-20 from J Division

s.37

⁴⁹ <https://northernontario.ctvnews.ca/police-investigating-after-protesters-harass-families-as-children-get-their-vaccines-in-north-bay-1.5687037>

⁵⁰ Personal Info.

⁵¹ <https://www.durhamradionews.com/archives/148208>

⁵² <https://twitter.com/EatsFood2/status/1466275797057028098>

⁵³ <https://www.stcatharinesstandard.ca/news/niagara-region/2021/12/03/protests-target-niagara-kids-covid-clinics-the-government-is-experimenting-on-you.html>

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/prince-george-rcmp-vaccine-kids-protests-1.6275947>

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ <https://twitter.com/TPSOperations/status/1470001924342788104>

⁵⁸ <https://toronto.ctvnews.ca/document-calling-on-feds-to-apprehend-unvaccinated-is-fake-ontario-officials-say-1.5695423>

s.37

⁶⁰ <https://twitter.com/OttawaHealth/status/1467910749020463114>

⁶¹ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/police-arrest-west-edmonton-mall-anti-mask-1.6274333>

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8442208/politicians-hanged-in-effigy-at-protest-at-b-c-legislature-reflects-disturbing-trend-expert/>

⁶⁴ https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/news/news_release.2021.12.0927.html

⁶⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/603238774168915/posts/665778957914896/>

⁶⁶ <https://ici.radio-canada.ca/nouvelle/1844733/homme-laval-arrestation-menaces-reseaux-sociaux-didulo-vaccination>

⁶⁷ <https://globalnews.ca/news/8451785/bc-checking-fraudulent-vaccine-records/>

⁶⁸ <https://www.surreycomet.co.uk/news/19796397.surrey-warning-booster-vaccine-scam/>

APPENDIX A - Canadian blog post in support of solidarity actions

3. 20 Worst Traffic Bottlenecks in Canada

1. Toronto, Highway 401 between Highway 427 and Yonge Street
2. Toronto, Don Valley Parkway/Highway 404 between Don Mills Road and Finch Avenue
3. Montreal, Highway 40 between Boulevard Pie-IX and Highway 520
4. Toronto, Gardiner Expressway between South Kingsway and Bay Street
5. Montreal, Highway 15 between Highway 40 and Chemin de la Côte-Saint-Luc
6. Toronto, Highway 401 between Bayview Avenue and Don Mills Road
7. Toronto, Highway 409 between Highway 401 and Kipling Avenue
8. Montreal, Highway 25 between Avenue Sculigny and Rue Beaubien
9. Vancouver, Granville Street at SW Marine Drive
10. Vancouver, W Georgia Street between Seymour Street and W Pender Street
11. Toronto, Highway 401 between Don Valley Parkway and Victoria Park Avenue
12. Toronto, Black Creek Drive between Weston Road and Treboroway Drive
13. Toronto, Highway 401 between Martin Road and McLaughlin Road
14. Montreal, Highway 40 between Highway 520 and Boulevard Cavendish
15. Vancouver, Granville Street between W Broadway Street and W 16th Avenue
16. Montreal, Highway 20 near 1st Avenue
17. Quebec City, Highway 73 between Chemin des Quatre Bourgeois and exit to Avenue Dauphine
18. Toronto, Highway 401 interchange at Highway 427
19. Toronto, Highway 400 at Highway 401
20. Vancouver, George Massey Tunnel on Highway 99



Sourced from "Another End of the World is Possible: Indigenous Solidarity and Blocking Extractive Infrastructure in Canada" indocenterinfo.org/another-end

longed stoppage of operations at Thunder Bay would produce serious disruptions along the entire Seaway system and to economic activities throughout north-western Ontario and across the prairie heartlands.

Oil and Natural Gas Pipelines

An enormous 700,000 kilometre network of pipelines as well as railways, trucks and ships move crude oil and natural gas from wellheads mostly in western Canada to refineries and onward to markets in Canada, the United States and Mexico.

Unlike electric energy transmission lines, crude oil and natural gas pipeline are relatively secure from harm once they are properly placed in the ground. Each pipeline, however, requires pump and compressor stations to push product through it. These above-ground stations are susceptible to damage and interference. Other supporting parts to the crude oil and natural gas system might also be vulnerable to interference and accidental damage, including crude oil refineries, natural gas processing plants and storage facilities for both products.

Pipeline valve sites have been targeted several times in the last years by resistance movements, bringing the flow of oil to a halt until the valve is reopened. All pipelines in Canada have their valve site location maps on the National Energy Board website.

Hydroelectric Infrastructure

Vast hydroelectric systems provide energy for transportation, manufacturing, agriculture, etc. Transmission infrastructure is almost impossible to protect because they travel through thousands of kilometers of rugged terrain.

There are four principal hydroelectric systems of waterways, generating plants, and transmission lines – Hydro-Québec, Hydro One (Ontario), Manitoba Hydro and BC Hydro.

Transmission and distribution lines are critical infrastructure in each system. Transmission lines carry high voltage current to transformer stations. Distribution lines carry energy from these stations to consumers. As the Great Ice Storm of 1998 in eastern Ontario and west Quebec made dramatically obvious, these lines are fragile and exposed to many natural and technical threats. In circumstances where damage is widespread, recovery is difficult, expensive and slow. In 2014, a pilot used a plane to hobble two massive power lines, nearly crippling Hydro-Québec's power grid with one act of sabotage. The technique had been used during conflicts in Iraq, Kosovo and Serbia and was "easily accessible on the Internet" – unidentified materials were dropped on the lines from the plane at three locations on the same day.

#SHUTDOWNCANADA

1. Transportation Infrastructure in Canada

Three main elements of transportation infrastructure: oil and gas pipelines, heavy vehicle highways, and railways. Industries relying on timely delivery systems would be heavily impacted by disruptions (automotive, sales, etc.)

Highways

Heavy truck transportation is responsible for a large portion of Canada's GDP and is especially prevalent in the Southern Ontario - Quebec corridor. A key vulnerability in this export/import network is the concentration of its critical transportation lifelines in a relatively close area funnelled through its congested gateways mostly in eastern Canada. For example, 75 percent (by value) of Canada-United States trade is carried by trucks through its border crossings: Windsor/Ambassador Bridge, Fort Erie/Niagara Falls, and Sarnia, Ontario. The remainder passes through Lacolle, Quebec; Emerson, Manitoba; and the Pacific Highway in British Columbia.

Rail Transportation

Railway is the heart of Canada's transportation infrastructure. It's the third largest system in the world: 2,900 locomotives and 10,000 employees. Most important railway commodities: coal, iron, potash, fuel oil, crude petroleum. These types of bulk cargoes can only be transported by rail. Three national railways – VIA, Canadian Pacific, Canadian National – move 70% of freight.

Much of this traffic flows from Canada into the United States, but a large percent of it also moves east and west on two main lines over Lake Superior and through the Winnipeg bottleneck. Every route, including those in the Montreal-Windsor corridor, is vulnerable to blockade and intentional damage. The isolated northern Ontario-Kenora-Winnipeg routes are particularly vulnerable.

A map of the rail choke-points throughout Canada (and globally) can be found at empirelogistics.org/ics-map.

Marine

The main value of the marine infrastructure to Canada, especially for the St. Lawrence Seaway, is its utility as an alternative or supporting transportation system for road and rail operations on the west-east transportation corridor.

Although it would be difficult to interfere directly and effectively with terminal operations in Thunder Bay or elsewhere in the St. Lawrence Seaway system, disruptions to road and rail transportation systems leading to the ports would effectively close these vital, weather-sensitive, seasonal operations. Any pro-

2. Vulnerable infrastructure bottlenecks by province

British Columbia: mountain and coastal road and rail systems; road and rail approaches to Pacific Ocean ports; crude oil and natural gas transmission pipelines, especially pumping stations, compressor stations and refineries; and all the transmission and distribution facilities of BC Hydro.

Alberta: crude oil and natural gas transmission pipelines, especially pumping stations, compressor stations and refineries; and coal-carrying railway systems.

Saskatchewan: crude oil and natural gas transmission pipelines, especially, pumping stations, compressor stations; railway transportation systems for natural resources; and Trans-Canada Highway intersections crossing the province.

Manitoba: The most vulnerable west-east transportation hub in Canada. Any disruption of the concentrated road and railways intersections at Winnipeg would have enormous, negative economic consequences across Canada. There are no easy or cost-effective ways around this transportation hub.

Elsewhere in the province the most important assets are the Manitoba Hydroelectric system from Nelson River generating facilities and the transmission lines running south and the hydroelectric distribution lines in the Winnipeg area.

Ontario: the west-east road and railway transportation convergence in the Thunder Bay area; the access roads and railways into the Thunder Bay port; the junction of the Highway 17 and Highway 11 Trans-Canada Highway systems over Lake Superior at Nipigon; the international bridge at Sault Ste. Marie; the road bridge over the Petawawa River on Highway 17 at Petawawa; the road and railway bridges over the Rideau Canal system on Highway 401 and Highway 2 near Kingston; the 400-series highways in and around Toronto; the roads into the Windsor/Ambassador Bridge border crossing; and the Welland Canal operating facilities.

Quebec: the Hydro Québec transmission lines from the James Bay generating facilities; the Hydro Québec distribution system in lower Quebec; the bridges near Montreal and Quebec City; the east-west-bound highways north and south of the St. Lawrence River; and the highway approaches to the United States.

Atlantic Provinces: roads and railways to Quebec and the United States; road and railway approaches to Halifax harbour; and the hydroelectric transmission and distribution lines from Quebec.

The Territorial North: major roads to Whitehorse and Yellowknife; airports; hydroelectric stations; pipelines; winter roads to mining camps.